

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 23 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Wednesday 24 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Monday 22 Mar 2021 at 15:38 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Generally high, main uncertainties focused on cloud heights and extent of any cloud breaks. Some brief periods of more persistent rain and snow likely on Thursday and Friday, but timings highly uncertain at present.

Headline for Tuesday 23 Mar 2021: Cold with low cloud and severe gales across the summits. Rain early evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 23 Mar 2021

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy Snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

Low Likelihood

Gales

High Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility

High Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Fog	Dull	Fog	Dull	Dull	Dull	Heavy Rain	Light snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
10%	20%	20%	10%	10%	30%	80%	10%

Forecast for Tuesday 23 Mar 2021

Weather: Mostly dull through the early hours and morning with low cloud, some patchy light drizzle in the west. Dry and brighter across the east and far north. Thickening cloud from mid-afternoon with rain spreading east late afternoon. Clear spells developing around dusk, but a few wintry showers from late evening, mainly in the west.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Generally 20%, 60% in the far north and east. 80% in the evening across all ranges.

Visibility: Good or very good outside of any low cloud, but generally poor in the west for much of the day with frequent cloud above 600-700m. Cloud more broken around 800-1000m far north and east. Cloud mostly clearing in the evening.

Forecast for Tuesday 23 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	42/51 SW	41/51 SW	44/55 SW	47/59 SW	48/62 SW	48/63 SW	47/62 SW	37/50 SW	34/46 SW
900	40/50 SW	40/50 SW	42/53 SW	44/56 SW	45/59 SW	45/60 SW	45/60 SW	34/48 SW	32/44 SW
600	29/39 SW	28/38 SW	31/42 SW	33/46 SW	33/47 SW	33/48 SW	32/47 SW	24/38 SW	22/34 SW
300	12/36 SW	11/35 SW	11/37 SW	12/41 SW	13/44 SW	13/46 SW	14/45 SW	10/36 SW	9/31 SW
Glen	12/26 SW	14/29 SW	15/31 SW	15/32 SW	18/37 S	20/42 S	20/41 SW	16/32 SW	13/29 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	1/-8	1/-8	0/-9	1/-8	1/-8	1/-8	0/-9	-1/-10	-2/-11
900	2/-6	2/-7	1/-7	1/-7	2/-7	2/-7	1/-8	-0/-9	-1/-10
600	4/-2	4/-3	3/-3	4/-3	4/-3	4/-2	3/-4	2/-5	1/-6
300	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/3	6/3	7/4	6/2	4/1	3/0
Glen	8/5	8/5	8/4	8/5	9/5	9/5	8/4	6/2	6/2
Freezing Level*	1200m	1100m	1100m	1200m	1200m	1200m	1000m	800m	700m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Very gusty conditions likely, especially on summits, high ridges and to the north of high ground.

Forecast for Wednesday 24 Mar 2021

Weather: Clear spells and a few snow showers through the early hours. Patchy cloud builds through the morning bringing scattered showers, falling as snow above 500-600m, turning heavy and frequent from around midday, with a risk of thunder. Showers mostly die out early evening, some clear spells developing in the east.

Maximum wind: Southwest 25 mph, gusting 40 mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% in the west, 60% in the east and far north.

Visibility: Excellent air clarity outside of any low cloud and showers. However, frequent, often continuous cloud above 600-800m in the west, more occasional cloud above 900m in the north and east.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 6 Celsius rising to 10 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius rising to plus 2 Celsius.
Freezing level: 600m rising to 800m.